

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-02 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06

OES-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /109 W

-----312336Z 125336 /7-62

R 311350Z JAN 77

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0597

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS ALEXANDRIA 0103

CAIRO FOR ALUSNA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, EG

SUBJECT: MISSING AT SEA

1. JAN 28 PRESS REPORTED THAT SS GUIZEH (GIZA), EGYPTIAN CARGO VESSEL WHICH CAUGHT FIRE OFF ALEXANDRIA EARLY THIS MONTH AND WAS ABANDONED, HAD "DISAPPEARED", APPARENTLY TOWED AWAY WITHOUT EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES KNOWLEDGE BY TWO TUGBOATS OF "UNKNOWN NATIONALITY".

2. SUNDAY JAN 30 PROGRES D' EGYPT REPORTED (TRANSLATION): EGYPTIAN CARGO VESSEL GUIZEH WHICH WAS "KIDNAPPED" THURSDAY WAS FOUND FRIDAY OFF ABU KIR. IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN AN ITALIAN TUGBOAT WHICH TOOK THE CARGO BOAT AWAY WITHOUT INFORMING THE PORT AUTHORITIES AT ALEXANDRIA. THE GUIZEH, 3500 TONS, HAS BEEN DRIFTING SEVERAL KILOMETERS FROM THE PORT OF ALEXANDRIA SINCE THE NIGHT OF 2 OR 3 JANUARY, FOLLOWING A FIRE WHICH DESTROYED THE ENGINE ROOM AND FORCED THE CREW TO ABANDON SHIP. ALL ATTEMPTS TO TOW THE SHIP, WHICH WAS A MENACE TO NAVIGATION, HAD BEEN IN VAIN.

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3. SEVERAL DAYS AFTER FIRE, PRESS REPORTED HULK OF GUIZEH (ITS CARGO OF COTTON STILL SMOLDERING) HAD BEEN "TOWED TO ANCHORAGE IN ALEXANDRIA HARBOR." DEPUTY MINISTER OF MARITIME TRANSPORT ASSURED US AT TIME THIS NOT RPT NOT TRUE (BRINGING FOUNDERING HULK INTO ALREADY OVERCROWDED PORT SEEMED SENSELESS). HE SAID VESSEL HAD BEEN GROUNDED ON SAND NEAR AGAMI (THREE OR FOUR MILES WEST OF HARBOR ENTRANCE).

4. FROM SOURCE WITH ACCESS, WE LEARNED EVENING OF 30 JANUARY THAT MARITIME AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN SEEKING PERMISSION FOR EGYPTIAN NAVY TO FIRE TWO TORPEDOS AND SINK HULK TO RID PORT APPROACHES OF THIS FLOATING MENACE. SOURCE FOUND IT AMUSING THAT AUTHORITIES NOW APPARENTLY UPSET BECAUSE SOMEONE SEEMS CAPABLE OF SALVAGING VESSEL - FYI: AS REPORTED IN ANOTHER CONTEXT (76 ALEXANDRIA 0736), PORT AUTHORITIES HAVE AVAILABLE ONLY TWO AND (AND SOMETIMES ONLY ONE) HARBOR TUGS OF VERY ANCIENT VINTAGE BARELY ABLE TO COPE WITHIN SHELTERED WATERS, HENCE INABILITY TOW SS GUIZEH ON HIGH SEAS. END FYI.

5. CAIRO FOR ALUSNA: WAS EXISTENCE OF SS GUIZEH HULK NEAR ALEXANDRIA HARBOR APPROACHES PROPERLY NOTIFIED TO MARINERS? LOCAL SHIPPING SOURCES NOT ABLE ASCERTAIN SUNDAY EVENING. CHASE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, KIDNAPPING, CARGO SHIPS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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SAS ID: 3567275
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MISSING AT SEA
TAGS: EWWT, EG
To: STATE
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